

M. B. Moses & Sons



A new corner chair, of special design, and comfortable. It is made of mother-of-pearl and is a beautiful addition to any room. The price is \$7.45.

The very best Lady's chair, of special design, and comfortable. It is made of mother-of-pearl and is a beautiful addition to any room. The price is \$5.45.

There's a world of suggestion in a look at the display of Christmas things here. Never were we better prepared with the newest of the new things that are worth having—and never has the variety been what it is.

In an immense assortment such as there is here at this time it is impossible to do more than offer suggestions for your consideration. And the fact that we would impress most is that we can serve you best—you can buy best—NOW. Deliveries will be dated as you may wish.

The most famous and attractive furniture novelties are in the pre-decorated goods, the showings in which include the most desirable pieces. The display includes about two hundred styles—the greatest variety ever shown—and the stock is here at any price you would wish to pay, and to meet your taste requirements in every other respect.

The Rattan or African chair furniture is fast becoming a favorite. It is practically indestructible, and is made in a variety of most handsome styles. It is the most tasteful of gifts and a real assistance to the appreciative in every other respect.

An Easy Chair, that's the ideal present, and one that conforms to the best of taste in the giver. It would be hard to find a more appreciated gift, and which would endure more to the comfort of the receiver. There's a large showing of Easy Chairs here—upholsterings including leather and the most popular fabrics. There's a wide range of prices, too.

Have you seen the new Mahogany and Oak chairs? They are the season's innovation in small furniture, and are most handsome in design and effect. You will find the only showing of them here.

W. B. MOSES & SONS, F Street, Cor. 11th.

Meet Me At Droop's.

The "Steinway" and other leading pianos from \$150 up.

The Mason & Hamlin and other organs from \$40 up.

The "Washburn" and other Mandolins and Guitars from \$2.75 up.

The "Regina" and Swiss Music Boxes from \$1.00 up.

Stewart Banjos, \$7.49.

Other as low as \$6.00.

NEW PIANOS as low as \$250. Easy terms.

Used Pianos as low as \$25.

MUSIC HOUSE, 925 Pennsylvania Ave.

LADIES' WHIST TOURNAMENT.

Interesting Series of Games to be Played This Month.

The whist circles of Washington, especially the feminine portion, have been much interested of late, and as a result this fascinating game will be given quite an impetus the remainder of the winter. This state of affairs has doubtless been brought about by the formidable showing of the women whistlers of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the eastern states at the late whist congress in this city. Of late years the lady whistlers of Washington have improved their playing at a startling rate, and as a result at the present time many of them are the equal of the best gentlemen players of the city and country.

This improvement has created havoc with the whist history of this city. This tournament will be held under the auspices of the Washington Whist Club, December 14, 15 and 16, at its rooms, 1710 L Street northwest, to start at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Entries can be made to this tournament from Washington, and nearby cities and towns, teams from Baltimore and Richmond having already sent in their entrance dues, and the indications are that quite an array of whist talent will be present. The contest will be for teams of four, but an unusual feature of this tournament is that the players need not belong to clubs devoted to the game. This will afford the different fours, who have doubtless been playing together for years, an opportunity to ascertain just how strong they are and whether they are entitled to seats in the front ranks of women whist players.

The games will be played under the Howell modification of the Mitchell system, but the scoring will be no drawback to good whist playing. This will afford the tournament in charge, "Howell" modification of the Mitchell system, is an awe-inspiring sentence to those who have not entered tournaments before, but it relates entirely to the scoring and is the only way to keep track of the players and points correctly.

Match score will control this contest, the match score of each day being added to the score of the previous day. The team having the highest aggregate score of matches won shall be the first holder of the trophy, and shall be entitled to count three wins to those who have not entered tournaments before, but it relates entirely to the scoring and is the only way to keep track of the players and points correctly.

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CAUSED BY ACCIDENT

Death of Captain Ayres Declared to Have Been Unavoidable.

VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S JURY

Testimony of Witnesses to the Lamentable Occurrence.

FUNERAL TO OCCUR MONDAY

Capt. James C. Ayres, U. S. A., attached to the ordnance bureau in this city, while riding down Connecticut avenue yesterday morning about 10 o'clock, collided with a grocery wagon at the intersection of L street, and received injuries which resulted in his death three hours later at the Emergency Hospital. The driver of the wagon, William Ruppert, a young white man, engaged in the grocery business at 21st and L streets, was arrested and held in \$5,000 bail.

A coroner's inquest was held this morning at 11 o'clock at the third precinct police station. After hearing all of the evidence obtainable, the jury rendered a verdict to the effect that the accident in which Capt. Ayres met his death was unavoidable. Ruppert was released.

Coroner Carr conducted the investigation, assisted by Deputy Coroner Glazebrook. The jury was composed of Messrs. Felix Van Rooth, H. W. Seesford, Morris E. Horton, Timothy Craven, William N. Fisher and James Anderson. Young Ruppert was present at the inquest and testified. He had Mr. Leon Tobriner as legal adviser.

Dr. E. C. Carlin of 1401 21st street was the first witness. He saw Capt. Ayres at

the Emergency Hospital and testified as to the wound on the left side of the latter's head. He said there was no doubt that Capt. Ayres' death was a result of this wound.

Deputy Coroner L. W. Glazebrook testified that he viewed the body of the deceased on the left side of the head. Death, he said, was due to cerebral hemorrhage, following a fracture at the base of the skull.

John Shunklin, colored, of 1824 D Sales street saw the accident from a distance. He declared he saw a "jumble" of street car, delivery wagon and bicycle. He knew Capt. Ayres by sight. Witness did not know at the time whether the wagon or car struck the captain. His testimony was vague and of little value. Neither wagon nor bicyclist was moving rapidly.

William J. Rabbit of 2615 K street gave an interesting account of the accident. He was riding along Connecticut avenue in a wagon and saw all of the affair. Ruppert, in his delivery wagon, witness said, was driving in a slow trot west on L street. As the wagon reached Connecticut avenue a north-bound car passed. Ruppert drove behind this, and just as his wagon was clearing the south-bound tracks of the Metropolitan line Capt. Ayres, on his wheel, riding south on the right-hand side, close alongside the tracks, crashed into the shafts just in front of the front wheel. A south-bound car had stopped just north of L street to take on passengers. Capt. Ayres was riding with his right hand on a position. Mr. Rabbit declared, when he could neither see the Ruppert wagon nor the driver of that vehicle.

"When the collision occurred," Mr. Rabbit continued, "the horse driven by Mr. Ruppert became frightened and lunged forward. He was stopped by a few jumps. Capt. Ayres was dragged to the curb. I assisted the others in doing all we could for the injured man."

In a Slow Trot.

"Was Mr. Ruppert driving fast?"

"He was driving in a slow trot, and it appeared to me that as soon as he saw the bicyclist he did everything in his power to stop his horse. Both wheels of the wagon went over Capt. Ayres' right arm."

Mason Smith, colored, of 1739 L street, was riding with Mr. Ruppert when the latter's wagon was in collision with Capt. Ayres. Smith's testimony was intelligible, it appearing that the boy was too excited at the time of the accident to remember the details of the trial. He was excused after a number of fruitless questions by the coroner, Mr. Tobriner and members of the jury.

Jack Cole, colored, who works at 1016 Connecticut avenue, gave an account of the accident differing materially in detail from the evidence of previous witnesses. He declared that Ruppert was riding fast on his bicycle. As the two vehicles approached, he said, Capt. Ayres swerved to the right and his cutter hit the horse. When the wheel of the wagon struck him, when he saw Capt. Ayres pass in front of the horse witness thought the inevitable collision had been avoided. He was surprised, therefore, when a moment later Capt. Ayres was being dragged, with his wheel, beneath the horse. The horse was frightened, the witness declared, and could not have been stopped in time to prevent the accident.

Israel Driver, colored of Chicago, who is residing in this city, Joseph Fisher of 304 1/2 street northeast; Theodore Krake of 1227 1st street, and Andrew Ferguson of 1149 New Hampshire avenue, were examined, but their testimony threw no light on the accident, all having arrived upon the scene after the collision had taken place. Ferguson, however, said he saw the wagon and bicyclist a moment before the accident and felt a collision could not be avoided.

The Driver's Story.

William Ruppert, driver and owner of the wagon with which Capt. Ayres collided, was the last witness. After being sworn, he stated his residence was at 18th street and Benning road. He then told the jury: "I was driving west on the right side of L street. As I approached Connecticut avenue a car passed north going to Georgetown and another, southbound, stopped to take on passengers. I saw the wagon of William Ruppert, and I drove behind it. The wagon was not going fast. The horse was in a slow trot. I saw Capt. Ayres when he ran down into the horse. I was driving. Before I could stop the wagon had passed over him."

"When did you first see Capt. Ayres?" asked the coroner.

"Not until he struck the horse," the witness replied.

Capt. Ayres, he said, was riding either upon or very close to the southbound Metropolitan track on Connecticut avenue. His wheel struck the right shaft of the wagon, about midway.

"Then Capt. Ayres did not swerve in front of my horse, as a witness has stated?"

"No, sir. It would have been impossible for him to have done so, as the wagon was prevented from seeing each other."

This closed the testimony, and after a

few minutes' deliberation the jury returned the verdict of unavoidable accident.

Capt. Ayres' death was particularly unfortunate. He was highly regarded by all who knew him, and was a most efficient officer. He was always regarded as a careful bicyclist, and never rode fast or in dangerous places. His wheel was equipped with brake straps and every known safety appliance.

Capt. Ayres' Career.

Capt. Ayres, graduated from West Point with the class of 1871, and three years later was transferred to the ordnance department of the army. In 1877 he was chief of ordnance of the Department of the Pacific, and in 1882 was stationed at the Springfield armory.

Since that time he has been on duty at Benicia arsenal, California; Vancouver barracks, Sandy Hook, Governor's Island and Sea Girt. Early in 1888 he was ordered to the ordnance bureau in this city, and did capable and efficient work during the Spanish war. He was considered an eminent authority on ordnance.

Capt. Ayres resided at 2005 O street, from which place his funeral will take place Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. T. N. Hamlin of the Church of the Covenant will officiate, and the interment will be at Arlington cemetery.

With military honors Capt. Ayres' wife, a daughter of Gen. Rodman and a cousin of Maj. Rodman, now on duty in the Philippines.

WON THREE STRAIGHT.

Business Men's Club Bowlers Defeat the Columbian.

The tail-enders in the District Bowling League very materially improved their percentage in the league standing last night. This cheering result was accomplished by winning the entire series of three games from the Columbia bowling club. The match was bowled on the Business Men's alley.

The home team played much the best series they have put up in any previous match this season. Instead of tail-end work, they played like pennant winners, and while the Columbia strings were by no means slouchy, they were easily beaten in every game.

In one game Miller gave strong indications of surpassing the highest individual game yet made, but did not quite reach the mark. Starting in the sixth frame, he struck in each succeeding box, and to this great run the Columbia favorably responded. All of the other members of the South Washington club secured good totals at times, and the work was evenly divided.

For Columbia Dr. McKish being close behind. Still again showed in poor form, and this trouble with the pins. At no time this year has he bowled up to his old standard.

In the opening game the result seemed to be settled in the first end. McKish was many pins ahead at the close of the first half. After that they bowled poorly, and the big run by Miller gave his side the winning.

The score follows:

Columbia Bowling Club. Business Men. St. Sp. St. Sp.

Ricker..... 5 187 Smithson..... 1 144

DeLoe..... 3 158 Criss..... 2 6 161

McKish..... 6 2 200 Land..... 1 5 138

Rodrick..... 3 5 167 Miller..... 5 4 218

Stitt..... 1 4 132 Kidd..... 3 3 158

Totals..... 14 18 784 Totals..... 12 24 812

Like the first game, Columbia secured a good lead in the first end, but McKish failing off from his great run of strikes and being